

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Pongprayoon and Boriphath Methachan  
Serial No. : 10/692,171  
Filing Date : October 23, 2003  
Group/Art Unit : 1794  
Examiner : Ahmed, Sheeba  
Confirmation No. : 8356  
Docket No. : 820233.02310

For: **METHOD FOR MAKING AN ARTICLE WATER RESISTANT  
AND ARTICLES MADE THEREFROM**

**DECLARATION SUBMITTED UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132**

Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 11, 2010

I, Edgar A. O'Rear III, do hereby declare the following:

I am an inventor and familiar with the contents of the above  
referenced patent application.

I have an S.M. in Chemistry and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering and  
consider myself to be one of ordinary skill in the art with respect to the  
subject matter of the above referenced patent application.

I have read and understand the subject matter of the Office Action of  
January 27, 2010.

The following comments are offered in support of the patentability of  
the instant invention.

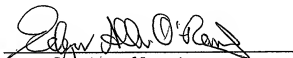
As one of ordinary skill in the art with respect to the subject matter of  
the above referenced patent application, I would be able to conclude from  
the Specification as originally filed and the combination of Paragraph [0071]

and Figures 14(a) and 14(b) that the coating is disposed on the surfaces of the individual fibers, thus creating spaces intervening between the individual, coated fibers (i.e. voids).

Furthermore, the ability of admicellar polymerization to modify surfaces while leaving voids present is well-established (Wu et al., *AIChE J.* **34**:1511-1517, 1988). Pore size distributions in porous alumina powder can be measured by capillary condensation with the de Boer cylindrical pore model theory. BET surface area decreases and pore sizes shift to smaller diameters after formation of the polymer layer inside the pores by admicellar polymerization.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made or information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date 3/18/10

  
Signature of Inventor